

INL News Release  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
February 27, 2012

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**22nd INL Scholastic Tournament getting under way**

Idaho high school students will be quizzed on their math and science acumen over the next several days as play gets under way for the INL Scholastic Tournament.

This is the 22nd year Idaho National Laboratory has sponsored the Jeopardy-style tournament in which teams of high school students buzz in to answer math and science-related questions.

Teams participate in regional competition before moving on to the championship rounds, which will be held in Idaho Falls on March 21. The top two teams will compete in the U.S. Department of Energy's National Science Bowl, which begins April 26 in Washington, D.C.

The Idaho Falls-area tournament is scheduled for Feb. 27-28. The Treasure Valley tournament is expected to take place March 5-6.

Because of budget constraints, INL has streamlined this year's competition. Changes include:

- Moving the championship from Boise to Idaho Falls to help reduce travel costs of the personnel needed to run the tournament.
- Idaho Public Television will no longer broadcast the championship rounds.
- Soliciting volunteers to organize and run regional tournaments.
- Schools in north Idaho (Regions 1 and 2) can choose to participate in the Spokane-area scholastic tournament, which is run by Gonzaga University.

"We are committed to continuing sponsoring and organizing the INL Scholastic Tournament, which has been one of the largest national science bowls in the country," said Anne Seifert, INL's K-12 education program coordinator. "We've had to make some difficult decisions because of budget constraints, but we are excited to continue this long-standing event."

INL is one of the DOE's 10 multiprogram national laboratories. The laboratory performs work in each of the strategic goal areas of DOE: energy, national security, science and environment. INL is the nation's leading center for nuclear energy research and development.

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-INL-12-007

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